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ACTION EA-12
INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10 LAB-04
NSAE-00 STR-10 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-01 L-03
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 HA-06 SY-05
DOT-02 /104 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3581
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL
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CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD
E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, JA, KS
SUBJECT: (U) SOHYO THREATENS ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH KOREA

1. (U) THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF TRADE UNIONS (SOHYO) HAS ANNOUNCED PLANS TO APPLY ECONOMIC SANCTIONS AGAINST SOUTH KOREA THROUGH STRIKES IN INDUSTRIES TRADING WITH THAT COUNTRY IF THE KIM DAE-JUNG DEATH PENALTY IS UPHELD BY THE KOREAN SUPREME COURT. DECISION WAS MADE AT GENERAL MEETING NOVEMBER 4. SOHYO-AFFILIATED ALL JAPAN HARBOR WORKERS' UNION (ZENKOWAN) HELD LUNCH HOUR TALKS SAME DAY TO DISCUSS WHAT ACTIONS WOULD BE TAKEN IF THE DEATH SENTENCE IS UPHELD. OTHER UNIONS INVOLVED WITH SOUTH KOREAN TRADE ALSO MET FOR SIMILAR DISCUSSIONS.

2. (U) STRIKES AGAINST KOREAN TRADE ARE ONLY ONE OF SEVERAL ACTIONS CONTEMPLATED BY SOHYO AS PART OF ITS MOVEMENT TO SAVE KIM DAE-JUNG. OTHERS INCLUDE "SAVE KIM" CARAVANS

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AND A MASSIVE DEMONSTRATION IN TOKYO ON NOV. 27. ACCORDING TO SOHYO PLAN, CARS EQUIPPED WITH LOUDSPEAKERS WILL BE SENT TO TEN REGIONS IN JAPAN, WHERE THEY WILL SPEND ONE DAY IN EACH PREFECTURE WEAVING THEIR WAY THROUGH ITS DISTRICTS, PIED PIPER-LIKE, TO DRAW PARTICIPANTS TO RALLIES PLANNED TO BE HELD AT NIGHT ON PREMISES OF RESPECTIVE PREFECTURAL GOVERNMENT OFFICE BUILDINGS. THE CARAVANS WILL RETURN TO TOKYO BY NOON ON NOV. 27 IN TIME FOR THE DEMONSTRATION AT HIBIYA PARK.

3. (LOU) COMMENT: PAST EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN THAT STRIKES IN JAPAN ORGANIZED OVER AN ISSUE OF LITTLE OR NO DIRECT ECONOMIC CONCERN TO WORKERS HAVE PRODUCED MORE BARK THAN BITE. NO SPECIFIC STRIKE PLANS HAVE YET BEEN FORMULATED IN THIS CASE, AND TE THREAT OF ONE CAN PROBABLY BE SEEN AS ANOTHER MEANS OF MOBILIZING THE LEFT WING PARTIES ON THIS ISSUE AND THEREBY CONVEYING TO THE SOUTH KOREAN GOVERN-

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MENT JAPANESE PUBLIC OPINION'S OPPOSITION TO A DEATH SEN-
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